

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/676,347

Examiner

Grigory Gurshman

Applicant(s)

KOBAYASHI, MICHIO

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 11/17/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-15 and 17-26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 3-15 and 17-26 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
 - 2.1 Referring to the instant claims, Schumacher discloses authenticating images of digital cameras (Schumacher: Abstract). This meets the limitation of "data input means for entering data." Schumacher also discloses authenticating an image from a digital camera with GPS-derived time and location data (Schumacher: Abstract) which meets the limitation of "authenticating information adding means for generating information authenticating that the data have been entered by the use of said data input means on the basis of information acquired from outside and adding the generated information to the entered data." Schumacher discloses that the invention authenticates image data from digital cameras that have captured GPS-derived data as well as image data (Schumacher: column 2, lines 4-6). The serial number of the camera is included with the message digest which is used to verify the authenticity of the image data (Schumacher: column 2, lines 6-10, 22-25).
 - 2.2 However, referring to the independent claim 3, Schumacher does not teach or suggest that *authenticating information adding means has environmental condition measuring means for measuring a plurality of different surrounding environmental conditions*. The support for this limitation is found in specification (page 3, lines 22-26, page 123, lines 15-19, page 22, lines 1-4 and

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Fig.1). Schumacher teaches only measuring the light intensity, he does not teach *measuring the plurality of different environmental conditions*.

Referring to the independent claims 14, Schumacher does not teach that *digital signature affixing means has authenticating station-side position measuring means*. He also does not teach affixing the digital signature having the positional information added as authentication information.

2.3 Furthermore, Schumacher does not teach the limitation "personal information input means for entering personal information wherein said personal information includes at least one of user ID information and password information and personal information storing means for storing personal information".

Referring to the instant claims, Kuwano discloses user authentication by inputting the device ID of the device in which the user is registered as a user and user information composed of user ID and password (Kuwano: page 6, paragraph 0104). Kuwano also discloses that the device ID is contained in said user ID information (Kuwano: page 7, paragraph 0114). However, Kuwano does not teach or suggest that *authenticating information adding means has environmental condition measuring means for measuring a plurality of different surrounding environmental conditions* and that *digital signature affixing means has authenticating station-side position measuring means*.

2.4 Therefore, the combination of Schumacher and Kuwano does not render the instant claims obvious.

3. In view of the reason presented herein, claims 3-15 and 17-26 are in condition for allowance.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

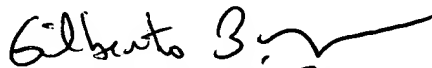
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Grigory Gurshman whose telephone number is (571)272-3803. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (571)272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Grigory Gurshman
Examiner



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